



# Roanoke Sheriff's Office

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## Press Release

**DATE:** August 17, 2020

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On August 13, 2020, the Roanoke Sheriff's Office released a notification that along with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and Naphcare, there would be widespread COVID-19 testing of all inmates incarcerated on August 14, 2020. The 389 inmates that were incarcerated on this date were tested. Out of those 389 inmates, ten tested positive for COVID 19. This ten, with the additional four that had tested positive previously, make 14 positive COVID-19 cases for the Roanoke City Jail. There will be no names or specifics of the medical conditions of inmates released. Currently, there are still no hospitalizations due to COVID-19 among inmates or staff.

These positive inmates have been reclassified to designated quarantine housing. They are under the supervision and care of jail and medical staff. While our facility will not allow for complete social distancing within housing units, the department is doing its best to educate the inmate population on the importance of wearing a mask, good hygiene and other safety measures.

For now, testing of the Roanoke City Jail inmates is complete. We are following the guidelines of VDH for information on whether further testing will be conducted. As reported in the release dated August 13, 2020, the Roanoke Sheriff's Office staff, contractors and vendors will be tested throughout this week.

For COVID-19 specific questions regarding the Roanoke City Jail, you may call (540) 853-1761 Monday through Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm. We are working on a form to submit questions via our website at [roanokeva.gov/sheriff](http://roanokeva.gov/sheriff). This should be operational within the next couple of business days.